

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00

SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-12 IO-13 HA-05 /090 W

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6350

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 27916

DEPARTMENT FOR AF LANNON WALKER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, CG, BE, FR, US, UK

SUBJ: PARIS MEETING ON PAN AFRICAN FORCE: UK PREFERS

DELAY OF SEVERAL WEEKS

REF: STATE 211443

1. UK EMBASSY POLITICAL COUNSELOR, GORDON-LENNOX, INFORMED US AUGUST 22 THAT THE BRITISH FOREIGN OFFICE WOULD PREFER THAT THE MEETING ON ZAIRE PROPOSED FOR AUGUST 28 BE POSTPONED FOR SEVERAL WEEKS. THIS POSITION IS BASED UPON TWO CONSIDERATIONS. FIRSTLY, THERE ARE A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS NOW TAKING PLACE IN ZAIRE (E.G., INSTALLATION OF IMF CENTRAL BANK OFFICIAL, ZAIRE-ANGOLA RECONCILIATION) THE SIGNIFICANCE OF WHICH COULD BE BETTER EVALUATED SEVERAL WEEKS HENCE. A MORE PRACTICAL CONSIDERATION IS THAT NEITHER MANSFIELD NOR MONROE, WHO FOLLOW ZAIRE EVENTS, WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR A MEETING THE WEEK OF AUGUST 28.

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2. GORDON-LENNOX SAID THAT IF THE OTHER PARTIES WERE INTENT ON GOING AHEAD WITH THE MEETING, THE UK WOULD AGREE BUT THAT HE WOULD BE THE SENIOR BRITISH REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT. GORDON-LENNOX WILL BE INFORMING QUAI AFRICAN DIRECTOR GEORGY OF THIS POSITION THIS MORNING. WE HAVE APPOINTMENT TO MEET WITH GEORGY LATE THIS AFTERNOON TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSED MEETING (GEORGY

HAS BEEN OUT OF TOWN UNTIL THIS MORNING) ON THE BASIS
OF REFTEL. AT THAT TIME HE IS LIKELY TO INFORM US OF
THE BRITISH POSITION AND ASK OUR VIEWS. GIVEN THE
RELATIVELY LIMITED BRITISH INVOLVEMENT IN SHABA, AND
WITH THE AFRICAN FORCE, AND OUR OWN INTEREST IN HAVING
AN EARLY MEETING, ASSUME WE COULD ACCEPT LOWER LEVEL
OF BRITISH PARTICIPATION. UNLESS INSTRUCTED OTHERWISE
WE PROPOSE TO TELL GEORGY OF OUR PREFERENCE THAT THE
MEETING BE HELD AS SCHEDULED. IF DEPARTMENT WISHES
CONSIDER BRITISH DESIRE FOR DELAY REQUEST TELEPHONE
POLCOUNSELOR ZIMMERMANN OR MURPHY PRIOR TO MEETING
WITH GEORGY SCHEDULED FOR 1730 LOCAL.
HARTMAN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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